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SIR GEORGE WHITE'S WELCOME-HOME.

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HINDE'S HAIR WAVERS
The late Lord Justice Chitty, on the application of Mr. Lewis Edmunds, Q.C., recently granted a perpetual injunction, with costs, restraining a West End Draper from passing off spurious curlers and selling them as "Hinde's Curlers." Evidence was given by a lady nurse, Mrs. Nobbs, of Kensington, that she had suffered damage by such misrepresentation. Ladies are urged to note that no curlers or wavers are genuine "Hinde's" unless they bear the name "Hinde's" legibly impressed both on the article and on the box. The present fashion of Undulated hair renders Hinde's Wavers, Nos. 18, 19, 20, a necessity at any well-appointed toilet table, and ladies to whom these little appliances may be at present unknown will appreciate the revelation as to the ease and rapidity with which the most elaborate evening coiffure can be completed. They are sold in 1/- boxes by every dealer in the three Queendoms, or Sample Box may be had free by post for thirteen stamps from the proprietors, Hindes Limited, Finsbury, London, E.C.

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THE "P.I.P." NARRATIVE OF THE BOER WAR.

PORTSMOUTH'S WELCOME HOME TO THE SAILORS WHO SAVED LADYSMITH.

WELL DONE, CAPTAIN LAMBTON AND MEN OF THE "POWERFUL"!

SOUTHAMPTON'S GREETING TO SIR GEORGE WHITE.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE TO THE HERO OF LADYSMITH.

FIGHT FOR WEPENER.

"BOBS" AT BLOEMFONTEIN.

HER MAJESTY, in brightening with her gracious presence the land of her brave Irish soldiers, has repeatedly proved that, while dwelling in the Viceregal Lodge, she has a warm corner in her heart for the gallant sailors who arrived in the nick of time to save Ladysmith, and for the noble General who kept the British Flag flying for so many months over the besieged town. The very day

H.M.S. "Powerful" Steamed into Portsmouth Harbour—

on April 11—cheered with the utmost heartiness by the crews of the old *Victory*, the *St. Vincent*, and other ships, and by the thousands who lined Southsea Beach, the Queen was prompt to dispatch the following telegram from Dublin to Captain Lambton (Lord Durham's plucky sailor-brother)—

"I sincerely welcome you all on your return home, and heartily congratulate you on the gallant and valued services which you have rendered in South Africa. I hope to see you all shortly after my return to England.—V.R.I."

The British cheers which rent the air as the *Powerful* came into harbour fairly represented the enthusiastic admiration the whole Empire must entertain for the fearless Bluejackets who sped swiftly by train from Durban to Ladysmith with Captain Scott's splendid naval guns, reaching Sir George White at the very moment they were needed by him to check the advancing hordes of Boers. "We all love Jack!" That was expressed in the hearty shake-hands Mr. Goschen, our zealous First Lord of the Admiralty, gave Captain Lambton.

That was the sentiment certainly conveyed in a most acceptable manner when Jack was smothered in kisses by more than his sisters, and his cousins, and his aunts. Right well had the valiant Jack Tars of the *Powerful* earned their holidays; and well have they deserved the lionising they have received in town and village since. But the thundering cheers of London streets are reserved for the 25th inst., when the Naval Brigade is to march past the Nelson Column and on to the Horse Guards' Parade.

CAPTAIN PERCY M. SCOTT,
WHOSE 47-IN. NAVAL GUNS SAVED LADYSMITH.

CAPTAIN THE HON. HEDWORTH LAMBTON,
WHO LED THE NAVAL BRIGADE SO WELL AT LADYSMITH.

Lord George Hamilton's Sailor-Son.

Midshipman Robert C. Hamilton, went straight from the *Powerful* to Deal in company with his father, mother, and two brothers. The town was gaily bedecked with bunting, and a triumphal arch was erected just outside the station offering "A Welcome to the Handy Man."

Lieutenant Lionel Halsey, also of the *Powerful*, son of Mr. T. F. Halsey, had a very hearty welcome from the inhabitants of his native town of Hemel Hempstead on the same day. In a wagonette, with other members of his family, and escorted by the borough fire-brigade from the railway-station, Lieutenant Halsey drove into the borough, where a procession, headed by a band, and including the Volunteers and the Mayor and Corporation, marched to the market-square. "Three Cheers for the Red, White, and Blue!"

The Heartstirring Welcome to Sir George White,

who arrived in the *Dunvegan Castle* at Southampton from Cape Town on Saturday last, had its pathetic side when it was seen how wan and thin-faced the prolonged defence of Ladysmith had left the heroic General. Nerved by a whole nation's sympathy, Lady White has borne the long and trying suspense of her husband's absence with noble resignation; but the meeting of her Ladyship and Sir George was affecting to a degree. It was when Sir George White and his wife came ashore that the siege-worn Leader learnt from the fervour of the cheering how deeply his fellow-countrymen valued his priceless services. His utter unselfishness was evinced when, cordially made welcome by the Mayor of Southampton, Mr. E. A. Hussey, he returned thanks not only for himself, but—to quote his own words—

"Also, and more, for the garrison which I had the honour to command—(cheers)—for the officers and men in it, from my chivalrous and gallant second in command, who is well known throughout South Africa, Major-General Hunter—(cheers)—to the boy trumpeter of the 5th Lancers, who behaved with such gallantry at the action of Elandslaagte—(cheers).

"I am also deeply indebted to the distinguished company which I see around me here for the countenance which their presence gives to our troops, whom they, at all events, believe to have done good work—(cheers). It is to tributes such as these that the rank and file look, perhaps, as their greatest reward for four months of hard work, with constant exposure to every extreme—and the violent extremes—of weather, under the shells and constant fire of the enemy's guns—(cheers).

"It is to the rank and file that these tributes appeal with the greatest force, and, for my part, I value them most on that account. When messages of sympathy or congratulation came from the Queen—God bless her!—(cheers)—and from our countrymen, they were posted in prominent places all about Ladysmith, and it was a joy to see with what pleasure they were read and re-read by the men, many of whom made copies to be dispatched home as soon as our comrades under the gallant Sir Redvers Buller should have cleared the way—(cheers). But, ladies and gentlemen, this is scarcely the occasion for a long speech to you.

"There is a great deal I should like to give you—more and more incidents of the siege, which would show how worthy of the countenance and distinction you are conferring to-day are the garrison and all ranks and classes in that town of ours—(cheers). I will not detain you longer—(cries of "Go on, Sir!"). I am afraid I can say nothing more without going into the question of the siege operations at great length. Although I have been congratulated upon my appearance, it is greatly due to the healthy blow up Southampton Water, and I am not in a condition to make a long speech—(cheers)."

COLONEL BADEN-POWELL AND LADY SARAH WILSON LOOKING AT A COPY OF "THE SKETCH" FOUND IN THE BOER LINES OUTSIDE MAFEKING.

In reviewing the most recent operations at the Seat of War, we feel it but their due to offer a fresh meed of praise to

The Imperial Yeomanry and Kimberley Mounted Corps at Boshof.

Lord Roberts himself, in a further despatch

DON'T LOOK OLD.—With advancing years greyness increases. Stop this with LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER, which darkens to the former colour and preserves the appearance. LOCKYER'S large Bottles everywhere.—[ADVT.]

THE HANDY MEN OF LADYSMITH: BLUEJACKETS OF H.M.S. "POWERFUL" RETURN TO DURBAN EN ROUTE FOR ENGLAND.

in reference to this smart action, paid this tribute to the men who won it—

BLOEMFONTEIN, April 11, 1.20 p.m.

Methuen reports that the party defeated on April 5 made a good resistance for four hours, and only gave in when our troops with fixed bayonets were within fifteen yards of them. Seven of the enemy were killed, 11 wounded, and 51 prisoners. Besides Lieutenants Boyle and Williams, 4810 Sergeant Patrick Campbell, Imperial Yeomanry, was killed, and ten of our men were wounded. Williams was deliberately killed after the white flag was hauled up. The perpetrator of the crime was at once shot. Methuen speaks in high terms of the intelligent manner in which the Imperial Yeomanry and the Kimberley Mounted Corps behaved.

The Death of Colonel de Villebois-Mareuil

in this severely contested fight inflicted a great loss upon the Boers, of whom he was one of the most skilful and intrepid leaders. He was struck by a shell, and killed. General Galliffet, French Minister for War, while judiciously deprecating any political demonstration in honour of the late Count de Villebois-Mareuil, passed a high eulogium on the character of this brave officer (to whose remains Lord Methuen accorded a military funeral, and had the coffin draped with the French tricolour). Count Galliffet, himself one of the bravest of the brave, said the French Army regretted the Colonel's death, since it was mindful of his military valour, and could not forget his conduct in 1871, when, although wounded, he refused to allow himself to be removed from the battlefield. The Army also knew that if the country had been in danger, de Villebois-Mareuil would have been one of the first to come and defend it.

How Colonel de Villebois-Mareuil Might Have Been a Naturalised Englishman.

Mr. J. E. C. Bodley, who was an intimate friend of the late Colonel de Villebois-Mareuil, contributed an interesting article on the dead soldier to the *Athenæum* of Saturday last. He had, it seems, a profound respect for English institutions and for the British race. "His admiration for us went so far," Mr. Bodley writes, "that he assured me that after his Indian tour he would have applied to be naturalised an English subject had he been younger." It was probably the future development of a military organisation in which he was interested, with a view to political changes in France, and not animosity to the British Empire, which tempted him to South Africa.

Cronje at St. Helena.

General Cronjé, his wife and staff, landed at St. Helena last Saturday morning in the presence of a considerable crowd, by whom the Boer exiles were received in silence. General Cronjé's face was wreathed in smiles, and generally he appeared to be very cheerful. The party at once drove to the Castle, where they met the Governor and his family, and remained for an hour. They then proceeded, under an escort of Royal Artillery, to Kent Cottage, where they will be quartered until the conclusion of the war.

Colonel Schiel's Attempt to Escape Frustrated.

Colonel Schiel and two other Boer prisoners were landed at St. Helena on Sunday afternoon, and sent to High Knoll Citadel, in consequence of a daring attempt made to escape on Saturday night.

It appears that the German Colonel bribed a boatman to take a letter to a Dutch cruiser, which had arrived in the roadstead. This letter was taken to H.M.S. *Niobe* in mistake, and the prisoners' designs thus came to the knowledge of the authorities.

Late last Saturday night Colonel Schiel, with the two other prisoners, attempted to leave the vessel on which they were confined, but the attempt was, of course, frustrated. Colonel Schiel was found to be in possession of a large knife. When he landed on Sunday afternoon he was calmly smoking a cigar. He refused to ride in a carriage, saying he preferred walking. The ordinary guard accompanied the prisoner to Ladder Hill, where they were relieved by the Royal Artillery guard, who took the officer to High Knoll Citadel.

Photo. Window and Grove.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE WHITE, V.C., THE HERO OF LADYSMITH.

WAR-WORN SIR GEORGE WHITE (IN MUFTI) JUST BEFORE EMBARKING IN THE "MOHAWK" AT DURBAN FOR CAPE TOWN.

The Soldiers of Lord Roberts's Army at Bloemfontein

were (the Central News wired on Sunday last) in the best of spirits, and cricket and football were the popular games in their leisure hours. A football match between teams of Canadians and Gordons was watched by a large crowd. The Canadians won by a narrow margin, and they were enthusiastically cheered.

The two successes of the Boers at the Waterworks and at Reddersburg (Reuter's Correspondent said) are regarded as most regrettable incidents, but still merely incidents, of the bold attempt of the enemy to deplete Bloemfontein of the force defending it. It is necessary to impress upon the public the fact that Lord Roberts is now able at any moment and at any place to concentrate such an

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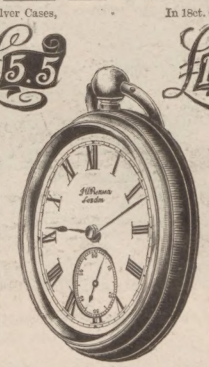

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HASTINGS.

JACK ASHORE: BRAVE LADYSMITH BLUEJACKETS OF H.M.S. "POWERFUL" COME UP SMILING AT PORTSMOUTH.

overwhelming force that the Boers cannot hope to stand against him.

Kruger at Brandfort.

The *Daily News* Special at Bloemfontein cabled home last Saturday—

Mr. Kruger is reported to be at Brandfort. On Thursday, April 12, there was a conference of Commandants there, which probably resulted in the decision of the Transvaalers to withdraw northward of the Vet River, preparatory to a general retirement across the Vaal if hard pressed, leaving the Free Staters to their own resources.

Captain Wigram's Reconnaissance.

Recently a small patrol of Kitchener's Horse, under Captain Wigram, pushed a reconnaissance along the Doornspruit to within six miles of Brandfort. They saw the Boer laager clearly, and estimated that the enemy's strength there did not exceed 2000. The patrol captured four spies who were hiding at a farm; then, advancing a mile towards another farm, they were nearly caught themselves in turn. Fifty of the enemy dashed from behind the buildings and tried to cut them off, but failed, and the men of Kitchener's Horse effected their escape across country without loss, bringing their prisoners with them.

Colonel Dalgety's Position at Wepener is strong and well chosen (it was cabled by Reuter from Aliwal North on April 14), but he is completely surrounded by the Boers, who have their backs right up against the Basutoland border, and if they hold out much longer they must themselves be hemmed in. The operations are being keenly watched from prominent heights on the frontier, especially the shelling and sniping that have been going on for the last six days. Colonel Dalgety's guns are admirably served. There is no waste of ammunition, every shot being well placed. The British force is offering a brave defence. The Boers made a strong attack on Colonel Dalgety's northern position at daybreak on Thursday week, but were beaten back.

Colonel Grenfell telegraphed that the casualties among Brabant's Horse at Wepener were Quartermaster Williams, shell wound, slight; Lieutenant Halford, severe; Lieutenant Duncan, slight; and about fifteen men wounded.

The *Standard's* Special Correspondent with Lord Roberts telegraphed from Bloemfontein last Monday afternoon that the enemy were retiring from Wepener. The Boers were keeping close to the Basuto border, and were being closely watched by the Basutos.

Lieutenant Findlay and Corporal Neal, of the New Zealanders,

had a narrow escape from drowning while crossing the Hartebeeste River. They were gallantly rescued, when completely exhausted, by Sergeant Street and Private Cassidy, of the same contingent. Private Cassidy has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and recommended for the Royal Humane Society's medal. He is now sick in hospital at Carnarvon. After getting Lieutenant Findlay on his horse, he was washed away, and he swam ashore with the Lieutenant, both being in full marching-dress.

The rebels have poisoned several wells on the road to Kenhardt, but fortunately the troops had plenty of fresh rain-water; otherwise they must have suffered severely from thirst.

Three Men of the Johannesburg Police

were captured by some of the Australians on April 14 at Glen by means of a cleverly laid ambush.

Lord Rosslyn a Prisoner.

A patrol of the Royal Irish, with whom was Lord Rosslyn (who has acted as a *Daily Mail* Correspondent), has been taken prisoner. The Earl has been sent to Kroonstad.

Chermside Supersedes Gatacre.

It was announced in Lord Roberts's General Orders that Major-General Sir H. Chermside had been appointed to the command of the Third Division, vice Lieutenant-General Sir W. F. Gatacre, "ordered to England." The following additional appointments are notified: Major-General Pole-Carew to command the Eleventh Division, Colonel Inigo Jones to command the Guards Brigade, Colonel Maxwell to command the Fourteenth Brigade, Colonel Knox to command the Twenty-third Brigade, and Major G. W. Brazier-Creagh, Indian Staff Corps, to command Roberts's Horse.

General Gatacre, it will be remembered, ordered the advance upon Stormberg on Dec. 9, when over 600 men of the Northumberland Fusiliers and the Royal Irish Rifles were captured by the enemy. This month he was ordered to proceed to the relief of the column cornered by the Boers near Reddersburg, but was reported to have arrived on the spot too late to prevent the enemy's escape.

The Third Division, now under the command of General Sir Herbert Chermside, moved across country on April 11 to Reddersburg, near the scene of the disaster. The Eighth Division, under Lieutenant-General Rundle, has also made Reddersburg its centre, and Brigadier-General Knox holds Bethany.

The Boers Active Near Ladysmith.

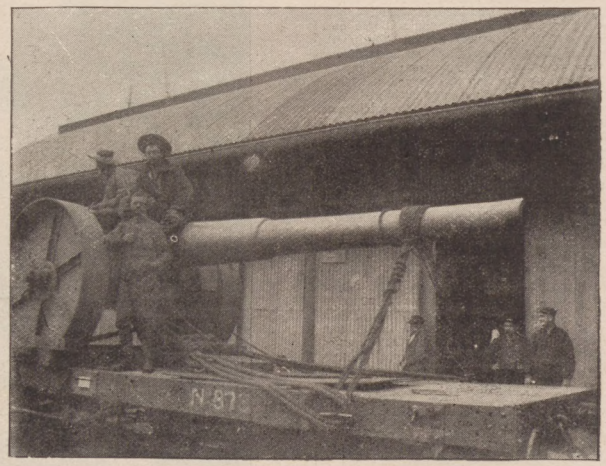
Sir Redvers Buller has been roused from his calm rest near Ladysmith. The Correspondent of Reuter at Elandslaagte on Saturday last reported—

For the past two days our patrols have seen no trace of the enemy. Their progress southwards was effectively barred by the occupation by our forces of Jonono's Kop on the left, and of Lombard's Kop and Umbulwane on the right.

The supposition that the activity of the Boers on Tuesday was due to restlessness and dissatisfaction in their ranks is borne out by the natives. The manager of the Elandslaagte colliery informed me that natives whom he had interviewed stated that the Boers commenced shelling us because they had been ready some time and wanted us to attack. They had eight guns in position, and intended to make a feint upon our frontal position, while a force was sent to the left to make a flanking movement.

The feebleness of their effort proves their utter inability to take the offensive. The natives continue to confirm the statement that one of the enemy's heavy guns was put out of action by our artillery. Our firing was so accurate that the enemy's gunners took shelter in a donga, but they were driven out from this in turn, and fled over the hill.

A despatch from Ladysmith of last Monday's date states that native scouts report that the Boers have withdrawn beyond the Biggarsberg.



A 4.7-in. NAVAL GUN USED IN THE DEFENCE OF LADYSMITH.

Photographed at Durban after the Siege.

The recent activity of the enemy is believed to have been a feint to cover their retirement. The Boers have wrecked with dynamite three collieries near Wessels Nek, the engine-houses, works, and shafting being destroyed.

Colonel Plumer's Gallant Fighting March to Mafeking.

On March 31 Colonel Plumer, with 270 mounted men, a few unmounted infantry, and one Maxim, arrived at Ramathlabama. Leaving there the unmounted men and the Maxim, the rest of the column followed the railway-line south to within six miles and within sight of Mafeking. Our advance guard, under Colonel White, encountered a large body of the enemy. Almost simultaneously the left flank, commanded by Captain Kensman, became engaged, and the right, under Major Bird, followed. A very warm hour ensued.

The enemy, who were in crescent formation, probably outnumbered the British by two to one. They advanced with skill and determination, and persistently tried to encircle us. Colonel Plumer held his ground firmly for more than an hour, and then retired slowly northwards, the squadrons successfully covering the retreat of the others. The enemy followed us up, and never ceased their efforts to outflank us from east to west.

The fight continued without intermission throughout the whole ten miles of retirement to Ramathlabama, where our Maxim was utilised, and after some further stiff fighting we reached our base. The British casualties were three officers and seven men killed, three officers and twenty-four men wounded, missing eleven. Nearly half of our officers were hurt more or less severely.

Colonel Plumer (of whom we gave a portrait last week) was slightly wounded in the right arm, and his horse was shot under him. Colonel Bodle, Staff officer, was also wounded, and Captain Rolt, the Adjutant, received a slight wound. Captain Fred Crewe, one of the most popular of the Rhodesians, who distinguished himself in the rebellion of 1896, was shot dead while covering the retreat of the others.

Captain MacLaren was severely wounded, and Lieutenant Milligan, the well-known Yorkshire cricketer, was wounded. He was at first reported to have been killed, but it afterwards transpired that he was taken prisoner. Medical Orderly Warnford worked pluckily on the field, though it afforded little or no cover.

"The Sketch" has the Honour of Cheering the Gallant Garrison of Mafeking.

The Special Correspondent of the *Daily Mail* in Mafeking, Lady Sarah Wilson, has paid a high compliment to our popular contemporary the *Sketch* newspaper. In her Ladyship's spirited letter of March 28, from the town Colonel Baden-Powell has so heroically defended with a handful of brave men (including the Prime Minister's soldier-son, Lord Edward Cecil, B.-P.'s vigilant Chief of Staff), she said—

"On March 23 Colonel Baden-Powell had the Hotchkiss moved to the brickfields trenches, and this weapon, from a carefully concealed position, opened fire suddenly on the enemy. An enormous amount of Maxim and rifle fire was thereby drawn, but there were no casualties on our side, as the men are now provided with steel loopholes to fire through.

"The same evening the Boers hastily evacuated all the brickfields trenches, leaving behind them various small properties and some newspapers, including a January number of the London *Sketch*, which was a godsend to the garrison."

Lady Sarah Wilson, in a later message to the *Daily Mail*, dated Mafeking, April 5, says—

"The pinch of hunger is beginning to be felt. On the morning of the 5th inst. there was a heavy bombardment of two hours' duration. Some shells fell close to the children's hospital, mercifully without doing any injury. It now transpires that young Cronjé meant to take the town on the occasion of the terrific bombardment on March 27, but seeing that our works were still manned after six hours' shelling, he would not risk it."

Feast of Locusts at Mafeking.

Writing from Mafeking in an earlier letter on March 14, the same vivacious Correspondent said—

"There was a remarkable decrease in the applications at the soup-kitchen to-day, yesterday, and the day before, thanks to the arrival of enormous clouds of locusts, which in ordinary times are unwelcome visitors, but in our present condition were hailed with joy. The natives gathered a hundred sacks full, and feed on them till their stomachs project in prominence of plentitude."

Lieutenant Smitheman,

of the Rhodesian Regiment, who did such good scouting work during the Matabele War, has passed the Boer lines round Mafeking, and entered the town, returning to Colonel Plumer's camp on April 5, reporting that Mafeking when he left was all well.

Mr. Langman

has received a special telegram from Lord Roberts, reporting the safe arrival of the Langman Hospital at Bloemfontein, and thanking this liberal philanthropist for his magnificent gift.

After the War.

The firm language used by Sir Alfred Milner in his speech at Cape Town on April 12 is accepted here as a gratifying indication that the Imperial Government is irrevocably determined to carry out the policy of incorporating the two Boer Republics in the Queen's dominion.

HARD TIMES: NATIVES COLLECTING LOCUSTS FOR FOOD IN MAFEKING.

SULPHOLINE SKIN LOTION.—The only effective remedy for SKIN TROUBLES. SULPHOLINE quickly drives away Eruptions, Pimples, Eczema, Acne, Blackheads, and all Disfigurements, developing a fair spotless skin and beautiful complexion. Try SULPHOLINE LOTION, Shilling Bottles.—[ADVT.]

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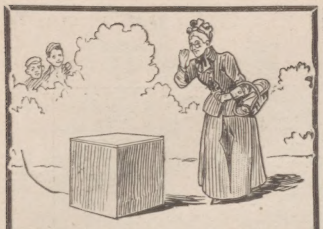

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HOW THE WORLD WAGS.

THE QUEEN, notwithstanding the fatigues she has undergone since her arrival in Ireland, has derived great benefit from the pure air and complete change of surroundings.

Her Majesty, who was to have returned to Windsor Castle on April 21, has decided, much to the delight of her loyal Irish subjects, to prolong her stay for another week.

The Prince of Wales has, during his visit to the King of Denmark at the Amalienborg Palace, Copenhagen, received some thousands of telegrams congratulating His Royal Highness on his happy escape from the attempt on his life, one of which came from Lord Roberts at Bloemfontein in the name of the British Army in South Africa.

The Prince of Wales has been suffering from a slight cold which affected his throat to some extent. His Royal Highness consulted Dr. Schmiegelow, the specialist. The Prince last Monday was initiated as a member of the Royal Danish Shooting Club. At the subsequent banquet the Princess attended.

A Royal Gift.—The landed estates and the country seats presented to Belgium by King Leopold are estimated to be worth about thirty million francs.

Lady White.—A justly popular woman is the wife of the heroic defender of Ladysmith. Lady White is the daughter of the Venerable Joseph Bayley, Archdeacon of Calcutta, she being married to General Sir George White in 1874. During the memorable siege, Lady White was vociferously cheered on her appearances in public. Since the relief of the beleaguered town, her popularity has increased. On the return to this country of her husband, he was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. A passenger on the *Dunvegan Castle*, his arrival at Southampton was especially interesting, the pet giving him a true British welcome. He proceeded to Netley Castle, the residence of Colonel Crichton, where his wife was staying. Owing to the privations experienced by Sir George White, his health has suffered considerably. The voyage home has happily had a beneficial effect, and it is hoped that not long will elapse ere he will be completely restored. According to a letter in the *British Medical Journal*, the relief of Ladysmith came none too soon. Mr. Treves says: "The men themselves were piteous to see. They were thin and hollow-eyed, and had about them an air of utter lassitude and weariness. Some were greatly emaciated, nearly all were pale, nearly all were silent."

LADY WHITE.

Kumasi Rising.—Sir Frederic Mitchell Hodgson, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony, just now finds his duties no sinecure. He succeeded to the appointment in 1898, on the decease of Sir W. E. Maxwell. Born in 1851, he commenced his official life at the Post Office. In 1882 he became Postmaster-General of British Guiana, and in 1888 acted as Colonial Secretary of the Gold Coast. He married in 1883 a daughter of the late Mr. Young, C.M.G., Governor of the colony. We cannot well forget that we have had several small wars with the Ashantis. The first, in 1823, is remembered for the tragic end of Sir Charles McCarthy, the Governor of the Gold Coast, who crossed the Prah with six hundred men to punish the natives. He, however, fell into an ambuscade, and was defeated and killed. His skull, with a rim of gold, was for a long time the drinking-cup of the Kings of Kumasi. Our next war with the Ashantis, in 1863, also ended in failure. Ten years later the Ashantis, under King Coffee Calcalli, invaded the Gold Coast Protectorate. Sir Garnet Wolseley, as he was then, was sent out with an expedition, which drove them across the River Prah, and destroyed their capital. The attempt of King Prempeh in 1894 to get rid of the British Protectorate, and his Majesty's subsequent capture by Sir Francis Scott's force as he was holding high carousal, will still be fresh in the memories of the people of this country.

SIR F. M. HODGSON.

A Field-Marshal's Funeral.—Amid most impressive surroundings the mortal remains of Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, who died at Algiers, were interred last Saturday with full military honours in Brompton Cemetery. At Chelsea Hospital, in the old chapel, the first portion of the Burial Service was observed, and there the old pensioners turned out in full force to pay the last tribute of respect to their old Governor. It was twelve o'clock when the solemn obsequies commenced. At one end, before the altar, was the coffin, covered with a Union Jack, and bearing on its lid the insignia, the orders, the sword, baton, and plumed hat of the late Field-Marshal, besides a laurel wreath from the Queen, tenderly inscribed in her own handwriting, "A mark of respect and regard to a most gallant soldier from his Sovereign, V.R.I." Seated on each side of the catafalque, garbed in full-dress review orders—scarlet coats, plumed hats, and all orders—were the fifteen pall-bearers. Behind these were the chief mourners, including Captain Donald Stewart (son); and behind these again were the Headquarter Staff of the Army, with Lord Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief, Sir Evelyn Wood, and the military heads of the departments, Colonel Davidson (representing the Queen), and Mr. John Morley. The band of the Scots Guards and the choristers of the chapel were stationed in the organ loft. Dr. Edghill, Chaplain-General to the Forces, read the first portion of the burial service. The minute guns were booming forth a salute when the coffin was solemnly laid on a gun-carriage outside the chapel, and when the Scots Guards, with a guard of honour, received the body with rifles reversed and at royal salute. Particularly impressive was the scene at the graveside, where the coffin was lowered into the tomb by a detachment of the Guardsmen; and when the Chaplain-General had pronounced the benediction, the huge concourse dispersed.

The Royal National Life-boat Institution Committee has expressed deepest regret at the news received of the lamentable disaster to the Padstow steam life-boat. The thanks of the institution, inscribed on vellum and framed, and the sum of £1 10s. to each, were at the same committee meeting awarded to ten fishermen and four coast-guardsmen in acknowledgment of their highly praiseworthy services on the occasion of the wreck of the fishing-boat *Village Belle*, of Dublin, in Lough Shinny, on Feb. 27, which resulted in the rescue of three out of her crew of four men. Other rewards were granted to the crews of shore-boats and others for saving life from shipwreck on our coasts. Rewards amounting to £267 were granted for services rendered by life-boats of the Institution during the past month, in addition to £26 allowances to men injured while engaged in life-boat work. Payments amounting to £5919 were ordered to be made on the 289 life-boat establishments of the institution. So "Man the Life-boat," and send your subscriptions for the continuance of the humane work to the secretary, Mr. Charles Dibdin, National Life-boat Institution, 14, John Street, Adelphi, London.

The Alhambra Management has been fortunate in securing an attractive novelty for their Easter holiday programme which is one of the very best in London. Chung Ling Soo is a Chinese magician, who is assisted by his son and a Chinese maid in a most astonishing exhibition of legerdemain. Probably Chung's most remarkable feat is catching live goldfish on the end of a line in mid-air, and producing from a shawl a large three-gallon bowl of water with ducks swimming in it. The Bonhair-Risley Acrobats and Fred Russell also reappear; and there are several alterations to the popular military display, "Soldiers of the Queen," which stirs the heart of the big audience with patriotic enthusiasm. Well done, Mr. Manager Dundas Slater!

Edna May to Reappear as an "American Beauty."—The new musical play by Mr. Kerker, which was announced at the Shaftesbury for Wednesday last, has been postponed until next Monday. The piece, which brims over with fun, was originally produced in America six years ago with the popular Miss Lillian Russell in the chief part, that of a wealthy and fascinating widow. Whether widows command less attention than they did some years back I cannot say, but in the present revival a rich and attractive spinster, who captivates everybody and is sought in marriage by any number of gentlemen, is sweet Edna May, the "American Beauty." There are plenty of other American beauties, some of the most dashing professional belles of New York taking part in the play.

"What a Night!" is to be the title of Mr. Pigott's adaptation of "Les Fêtards," the farce recently so successfully played in Paris for more than three hundred nights. It will be produced at the Vaudeville Theatre on Saturday by Messrs. Abingdon, Herbert Ross, C. P. Little, Cairns James, Fritz Rimma, the Misses Miriam Clements, Lily Belmore, Helen Macbeth, and Ellis Jeffreys. Mr. Charles Hawtrey undertakes the stage direction, and, in all probability, when the Vaudeville audience have witnessed the whimsical situations and the funny characters and their funnier doings, they will exclaim "What a night!" in response to Mr. George Edwardes's idea of the title.

"Zaza," at the Garrick, with electric Mrs. Leslie Carter in the chief part, has been freely pictured on the hoardings of London, the lady being represented in the brilliant dresses in which she is seen in the various acts of the play, which is supposed to depict life behind the scenes, not as Mr. George R. Sims powerfully describes it in "Without the Limelight," but quite from a Parisian and Bohemian point of view, somewhat after the pattern of Henri Murger's "Vie de Bohème." However, there's no offence in it, and the grace and talent of Mrs. Leslie Carter, who has played in London before with great success, carries off with splendid effect the realistic pictures of stage life, and imparts to the doings and sayings of the French Music Hall heroine sufficient interest to make her attractive to the patrons of the Garrick, where she will probably be seen for some time to come. Her best scene was the pathetic meeting with the little daughter of the man who is infatuated with her. Mrs. Leslie Carter achieved a marked success in this drama of French Variety Theatre life, a variation on "La Dame aux Camélias" and the eternal story of lawless love. Fresh from a trying Atlantic voyage, Mrs. Leslie Carter did not bring out all the good qualities of Zaza, but relied more upon the strong situations of jealousy and parting, which were undoubtedly very powerful. She could not have been expected to be a Réjane (who created the part), and she wasn't. But she fairly roused the house in Mr. David Belasco's English version of the play by MM. Pierre Berton and Simon.

Shakspere at Easter is an altogether new idea. Time was when "Shakspere spelt ruin," but we have changed all that, as anybody may perceive who pays a visit to Mr. Benson at the Lyceum or Mr. Beerbohm Tree at Her Majesty's. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" has caught on so thoroughly that the run of this poetical play has been longer than any since it was first produced. Mr. Benson, without aiming at striking scenic effects, has given great satisfaction in "The Tempest" and other plays.

The Extension of Sir Henry Irving's Tour in America enables Mr. Benson to remain longer at the Lyceum. Sir Henry will not be seen on the London stage until the end of May, and then not in the new play founded on the Bartholomew Massacre. In fact, the popular Lyceum actor-manager intends to revive "Olivia," the adaptation of "The Vicar of Wakefield," which, first produced at the Court Theatre with Mr. Herman Vezin as the Vicar, was afterwards transferred to the Lyceum and supplied Miss Ellen Terry with one of her most sympathetic characters, while Sir Henry Irving's Vicar is one of his most refined natural and pathetic delineations.

"Cyrano de Bergerac."—Mr. Charles Wyndham, having played the eccentric swashbuckler, yet unselfish, hero of M. Rostand with great success in English in the provinces, decided to introduce him at his new theatre on Thursday, nose and all; Miss Mary Moore being seen as the pretty heroine. Playgoers will regret to hear that the gifted French author has been dangerously ill with pneumonia of an aggravated kind.

"The Rivals" has gone so well at the Haymarket that Messrs. Harrison and Maude decided to make no change in their programme for Easter. The fine old comedy proved quite attractive enough to fill the theatre.

Mr. Thomas Hardy's "Tess," transferred to the Comedy Theatre with Mrs. Lewis Waller as the heroine, although a little sombre, viewed from the holiday point of view, amply justified the choice of the management, and appears likely to enjoy a long run at the Comedy Theatre, where it is admirably played. The adaptation has been also greatly improved by some judicious alterations.

The Crystal Palace, although the weather was not quite all that holiday-makers had hoped for after the brilliant sunshine of Saturday, was well attended, and between the showers visitors enjoyed themselves on Monday with open-air sports, variety shows, military bands, and dancing, "the light fantastic toe" being fully employed, and pretty partners were plentiful. Fireworks gaily concluded the holiday, and sent the joyous crowds back to town in the best possible humour.

The Alexandra Palace, after a long spell of silence and gloom, echoed once more with cheerful voices, pleasant music and entertainments well adapted to please holiday-makers, on Easter Monday.

See "The Passport" at Terry's Theatre, if only to enjoy the brilliant beauty, chic, and art of Miss Gertrude Kingston as the forgetful heroine, and the vivid humour of Mr. Edward Terry as the perplexed and bombastic M.P. of travelling propensities. "The Passport" has a plot evolved with truly remarkable ingenuity and skill by MM. Stephenson and Yardley.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE FIELD-MARSHAL SIR DONALD STEWART LAST SATURDAY: THE COFFIN BEING PLACED ON A GUN-CARRIAGE OF THE ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY OUTSIDE CHELSEA HOSPITAL.

Rosalind's Fashions.

EASILY achieved, yet pretty and smart, is the hat which forms the subject of Fig. 1 in my Fashion notes this week. It is of basket satin straw, with a turban brim and double or tier crown, and is of the extremely pretty pink shades which may be classed with anemone pink, or a pale tint of old rose, and which is most successfully expressed in the basket straws of this season's modelling. The brim of this hat is veiled in fine white lace—Honiton is a happy choice for millinery when obtainable—which also forms a couple of fan bows, grouped with bouquets of gauze poppies of the same charming shade of pink as the straw. In spite of the endless variety in headgear, in every phase of colouring and decoration, there is no doubt about the black picture-hat being likely to hold its own throughout the present season. Of its general becomingness there cannot be a question, which should be its first recommendation, though, unfortunately, suitability is *not* the foremost or only consideration with the followers of fashion generally.

PINK STRAW AND POPPIES.

* * * * *

The Chic Little Coatees are having it all their own way for the most dressy wear, and in every variety of taking material and design, though, as regards the former, cloth and velvet are the favourites so far. Those made to remain open in front show vests or frou-froued lace within, which adds considerably to the dressy appearance. This effect will be seen in the smart little coat sketched in Fig. 2, which is built of black cloth stitched with white silk, and finished with collar, revers, and cuffs of whitemoiré, and white porcelain buttons. These popular coat-lettes are quite a boon to the women with average good figures, for they go well with nearly all gowns, and smarten up those that might otherwise be voted dowdy, or, at least, somewhat *passé*.

A SMART COATEE.

* * * * *

A Charming Tea-Gown claims attention in Fig. 3. This is expressed in crêpe-de-Chine, in one of the pastel tints now so much in vogue—a subdued yellow. It is made *à la Princesse*. A very broad white lace collar and deep-pointed revers are met in the centre of the throat (which is bare) by a knotted scarf of chiffon (the shade of the gown), which falls below the waist, is caught up there with a diamond buckle, and then falls in long knotted fringed ends. The lower halves of the sleeves have mitten-like cuffs of the same lace composing the collar-revers.

* * * * *

Crepe-de-Chine seems likely to be *the* material for those able to rise to such "little extravagances," as Lady Teazle airily terms her alarming expenditures. It is a lovely fabric, of course, graceful and clinging; but not a possible one for work-a-day women. In spite of so little social stir, and the many serious claims on the purses of all, the extravagance in dress seems in no way diminished, and the elaboration of work is often amazing, as in a gown of mousseline, for instance, with five hundred yards of ribbon employed in the embroidering thereof, which recently came under my notice. Still, this means employment to many.

A GRACEFUL TEA-GOWN.

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—Illus. Guide (250 pages), 3d. Tobacconists' Outfitting Co., 184, Elston Rd., Ldn., 50 yrs.' reputation. Hairdressers fitted. Mgr., H. MYERS.—[ADVT.]

CHESS.

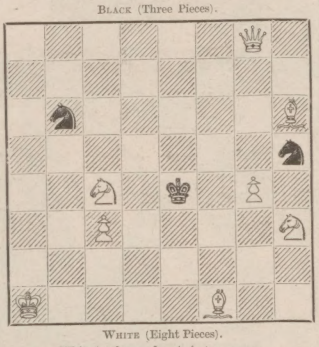
CONDUCTED BY I. GUNSBERG.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 317.

1. Q to Kt 8th	B takes Kt (ch)	2. Q takes B, Mate
1. ,,	K to Kt 4th	2. Kt to B 3rd ,,
1. ,,	B takes Q	2. B takes P ,, etc.

PROBLEM No. 318.—By F. SKALIK.

BLACK (Three Pieces).



WHITE (Eight Pieces).

White to play, and mate in two moves.

The following pretty game was played in the tournament at the City of London Chess Club.

WHITE (J. Blackburne).	BLACK (E. O. Jones).	WHITE (J. Blackburne).	BLACK (E. O. Jones).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	13. K R to K 1st	P to K R 3rd
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 4th	14. B to K B 4th	Kt to B 1st
3. P takes P	P takes P	15. Kt to B 1st	Q to B 1st
4. P to Q 4th		16. Kt to K 3rd	K to R 1st
This is the normal variation: slow, but safe and sure. The transposition of moves by White playing 2. Kt to B 3rd instead of P to Q 4th makes no difference.		17. Kt to B 5th	B takes Kt
		The Bishop now dies under disadvantageous circumstances.	
4.	Kt to K B 3rd	18. B takes B	Q to Q 1st
5. B to Q 3rd	B to Q 3rd	19. Kt to K 5th	R to Kt 1st
6. Castles	Castles	20. Q to Kt 3rd	P to K Kt 3rd
7. B to K Kt 5th	R to K Kt 5th	White's excellent play is worthy of study. Of course, he had no intention of taking the Kt P. He threatened 21. B takes R P, P takes B; 22. Q to Kt 3rd (ch), etc.	
8. Q Kt to Q 2nd	P to B 3rd		
9. P to B 4th	Q Kt to Q 2nd		
10. P to K R 3rd	B to K 3rd		
11. P to B 5th	B to K 2nd	21. B takes K P.	Q Kt to Q 2nd
Black is not playing in the best sense of the defence. He played B to Q 3rd (in preference to B to K 2nd) in order to get command of the diagonal on to White's K R 2nd, and he should, therefore, have kept on it, particularly as by doing so he prevents Kt to K 5th for the time being. Similarly, it may be remarked that Black's Queen's Bishop might have played to K 3rd at once, the only object for playing it to K Kt 5th being to get the Bishop on K Kt 3rd for the purpose of defending the objective point of attack, the K R P.		22. Kt takes K B P.	
		One of Blackburne's charmingly successful games. Neither K takes Kt or P takes B can be played.	
12. Q to B 2nd	R to K 1st	22.	Q to B 2nd
		23. B takes P	R to B 1st
		24. B takes R	R takes R (ch)
		25. R takes R	Kt takes B
		26. Kt to R 6 (ch)	K to R 1st
		If K to Kt 2nd, 27. R to K 7th (ch), Q takes R; 28. Kt to B 5th (ch), etc.	
		27. B to R 2nd	R to Q 1st
		28. Q to K R 3rd	Q to Kt 2nd
		29. Kt to B 5th	Q to Kt 4th
		30. Kt to Q 6th	R to Q 2nd
		31. R to K 5th	Resigns.

DRAUGHTS.

PROBLEM No. 275 correctly solved by David Arbib ("beautifully constructed"), Thomas F. Cleary ("one of the neatest I have ever solved"), and J. E. Jones ("a fine problem").

No. 276 SOLVED by Captain Challice, Q.W.R., T. F. Cleary, J. Stratton, B. Conway, and J. H. White.

J. H. W.—Write to E. Marlborough and Co., 51, Old Bailey, London, E.C., who will be pleased to supply the books you require.

T. F. C.—You have not correctly stated the numbers in your problem.

PLAYER.—Write for Lees' Guide to Messrs. Marlborough and Co., 51, Old Bailey, London, E.C. Price 1s. 2d.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 279.—By W. MACDONALD.

Black: 1, 2, 8, 18, 20, 28, 29x, 32K.
White: 9, 10, 15, 19, 24, 30, 13x, 21K.

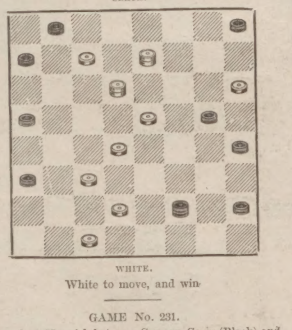
White to move, and win.

30 26	15 11	21 25	10 6	9 6	13 22
20—27	8—24	29—31	1—10	2—9	W. wins.

PROBLEM No. 280.

By A. C. HEWS (Launceston).

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to move, and win

GAME No. 231.

Played at Norwich between GEORGE COAN (Black) and A. PERFECT (White).

The Double Corner (*).

9—14*	20 11	*8—13	8 4	23—26
22 18	8—22	19 16	15—18	31 22
5—9	25 18	11—15	4 8	25—11
26 22	9—14	16 11	2— 7	24 19
10—15	18 9	15—18	32 28	3— 7
24 20a	6—22	30 16	30—25	21 17
15—19	30 26	10—15	8 4	17—10
23 16	19—23	16 12	18—23	17 13
14—23	26 19	22—25	28 24	10—14
27 18	4— 8	29 22	1— 6	
12—19	28 24	18—25	4 8	
22 17b	7—10	4 8	7—11	B. wins.
11—16	24 20	25—30	8 15	

(*a*) Leaves published play, 24 19 usual move.

(*b*) It is doubtful if a sound draw can be shown after this move.

(Notes by George Coan.)

The "P.J.P." Farmer.

BY A FRESH HAND.

Sucking-Bottle for Calves.

MANY of my readers may have tried the suckling of calves by means of the bottle. This method is far preferable to artificial feeding, by which the calf is deprived of the rich milk of its mother and fed on a chalky substance as early as it can be taught to lap the liquid from a pan. An American engineer has utilised the idea of the baby's bottle. Connected with the nipple is a flexible tube extending into the liquid in the pail. Inside the nipple there is a rubber tube having cross

A BOTTLE FOR CALVES.

slits in it, which acts as a valve. With this device the calf may be given liquid nourishment, receiving it slowly and by natural sucking.

Grit in the Poultry-Yard and Feeding.

Where fowls have a free range, they do not require so many meals at fixed times during the day, except in winter, when the ground is frozen hard or covered with snow. It is then necessary to give them a little grain at midday, and about twice or thrice a week some raw or "green" bones, or grit, should be supplied instead of the grain. This should be broken up into small bits, and for this purpose a crusher or cutter is necessary. There are several good patterns at reasonable prices.

The Buttercup Oxalis.

The Bermuda buttercup oxalis, of which I give an Illustration, is an unrivalled winter-flowering plant. It is very easily grown, and is of such a luxuriant nature that one bulb is sufficient for a 6-in. or 8-in. pot. Place in a dark, cool position for a few weeks to root thoroughly, and remove

THE BUTTERCUP OXALIS.

to a sunny situation in the window or conservatory in a temperature of about 60 deg. Fahr. The flowers are of the purest bright buttercup-yellow, and well-grown plants have been known to produce as many as seventy flower-stems at one time, and over 1000 flowers in a season.

Ailing Parrot.

Insects in the feathers have apparently caused the ailment complained of by "F. E. W." The use of Keating's powder is perfectly safe, and should put a stop to the nuisance. A change of diet may also be beneficial, dropping all food likely to heat the system.

Poultry and Duck Farming.

My Mistley correspondent's queries are not so clear as they might be. He should know that it is the earliest ducks which command the best prices, and Aylesbury reared ones are now being sent in large numbers to the London markets. If he can rear them by this time next spring, he should have just the same chance of catching the market. With regard to his second query, judgment and common-sense combined are necessary in selection of a breed with which

A GRIT OR BONE CRUSHER.

to run his chickens. My choice would be a Minorca or a Leghorn—white, of course. Favorolles are fairly good, but not equal in all respects to the older and more common varieties.

Miscellaneous.

"W."—There is no law to prevent you dressing your peas for vermin, but if the neighbour whose very unneighbourly conduct you complain about can prove that this dressing has been put down with an idea of poisoning his pigeons, you will find the boot on a different leg. "J. H."—There is not, to my knowledge, a society of the kind you speak of; although, if you intend building a cottage on the land, you would have no difficulty in getting the money advanced by a building society.

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58, DUKE STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W

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NO MORE GREY HAIR.

VALENTINE'S EXTRACT (WALNUT STAIN)

Changes Grey Hair or Whiskers to Light Brown, Dark Brown, or Black.

One liquid; a perfect, cleanly, and harmless stain. Acts at once—no smell or stickiness—leaves the hair soft and with a natural gloss. Warranted free from lead, sulphur, etc. It is washable, nourishing, and lasting.

1/- per bottle, by post 1/3, securely packed. Large Size, 5/9, post free.

C. VALENTINE, 32, SNOW HILL, LONDON, E.C. (*Late* 20, BAKER ST., *LONDON, W.*)

DO NOT SEND US ANY MONEY

Beautiful massive Signet Ring. Solid Gold, English Hall Marked.

Send us only your name and address. We will send you, post paid, six Gold Wire Initial Rings and six Breast Pins. Sell to your friends at 1/- each, send us the 12/-, and we

Solid Gold, English Hall Marked. Rubies, Sapphires, and Brilliants.

FREE will send you by return either one of the Rings here shown. Write To-day; your success is certain. Our wire novelties are in great demand.

E. F. HARRIS, American Wire King (Dept. A),

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.

DR MACKENZIE'S ARSENICAL SOAP

for a charming complexion and soft white hands.

Nothing else like it.

Chemists sell it, 6d. & 1/- tablets. Pamphlet on "Hints for the Complexion" free from S. HARVEY, Ld., Denman Street, S.E.

A VALIANT FRENCH COLONEL, WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN AN ENGLISHMAN: DEATH OF COUNT DE VILLEBOIS-MAREUIL, WHILST COMMANDING THE BOERS AT BUSHOF.—[See the "P.I.P." War Chronicle.]

THE HERO'S SWEETEST WELCOME HOME: LADY WHITE EMBRACES HER HUSBAND ON BOARD THE "DUNVEGAN CASTLE" AT SOUTHAMPTON.

SOUVENIR OF SIR GEORGE WHITE'S COOLNESS UNDER FIRE: BOER SHELL BURSTING BY THE SIDE OF THE GALLANT GENERAL AT ELANDSLAAGTE.

THE WORLD OF PASTIME.

THE JOYS OF EASTERTIDE.

To the tired worker at desk or counter the first of the year's public holidays comes as a break of most welcome description. It is not only that it constitutes a brief spell of relaxation from the daily routine: a vein of happy inspiration is opened up. With the budding of the leaf rises that hope which is eternal in the human breast. The spring is always full of promise, and the dullness of the season that is past is blotted out of our memory by the vision of the glorious summer that is to come. True it is that the weight of war is still upon us, but the news that greeted us at Eastertide was not of dread disaster; rather were they to be likened to glad tidings, for they told of the success of our arms at Wepener, and the confidence of "Bobs." But I am afraid my readers will say that this is not sport, of which at this time there is always plenty. So now for a scramble, as space is limited.

Good Friday,

at one time almost sacred to cricket and rounders, is now taken as an opportunity for the holding of athletic meetings. The

Hairdressers

and their friends assembled in such numbers at the Putney Velodrome that the departure, owing to limited means of *legitimate* exit, was, I am sorry to say, associated with damage to fences. All went away with pleasurable recollections of capital sport, carried out in fine if rather gusty weather. The winners of events—all handicaps—were W. T. J. Bines, T. B. Hedges, J. H. Bessell, S. C. King, F. T. Lickfold, W. J. Smith, and J. E. Smith.

Catford C.C.

also had a capital meeting, and many were the cracks attracted by the five-mile scratch race for the *Cycling* 50-guinea Challenge Cup. H. S. Chambers, Catford, rode with great judgment, and won by six yards from S. Holloway, Midland C. and A.C., with H. W. Payne, West Roads, third. The

Gamage C. and A.C.

had a most satisfactory day at the Wood Green track, shortly to be given over to the builder. There was a good deal of "crawling," to which many of the 10,000 persons present offered a strong vocal protest, but the arrangements were good and some of the racing was associated with excitement. Especially was this the case with the one-hour international motor-paced professional race, in which Tom Linton, J. Platt-Betts, and A. A. Chase took part. Linton covered in the hour 30 miles 1335 yards, and so won, the distance ridden by Platt-Betts, who was second, being sixty yards less. A five-mile motor-tricycle race was won by R. M. Ford, Anerley. The final of a ten-mile international professional scratch race was left over to form one of Monday's items, and it proved attractive from the usual point, the last mile. In the result J. Green, Newcastle, won; S. Jenkins, Catford, was second; and J. Callaghan, Polytechnic, third. A programme of diversified character was got through at the

Tee-To-Tum Grounds,

including a flying squadron race, distance one mile. It was won by R. T. Swash (runner), E. C. Good (walker), and E. J. Woollaston (cyclist). There was wrestling, too, in various styles.

Cycling at the Crystal Palace.

On Monday Tom Linton followed up his success at Wood Green by winning the Century Cup race, his opponent, J. Platt-Betts, giving up at 25 miles 2 laps. Linton rode 33 1-3 miles in 1 hour 4 min. 24 1-5 sec. The one-hour race for Crystal Palace Brussard (value £110) was won by C. Jarrott (Phœbus Astor), who covered 38 miles 868 yards. The holder, C. J. Wridgway, was absent.

The Saturday preceding Easter Monday is always a quiet day in so far as regards athletic sports. Of important meetings there was but one—that of the

Salford Harriers

at Belle Vue, Manchester. There was a very large company, many being attracted by the prospect of seeing A. E. Tysoe, J. T. Rimmer, and H. W. Workman in opposition in a two-mile race. Illness in the family unfortunately prevented the Cambridge University runner being present, and to the surprise of most people Rimmer, who took the lead about half-way, won easily in 9 min. 48 4-5 sec., Tysoe being second, some sixty yards off.

Football.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of last week's football was Southampton's ill-success. Thrice defeated in one week, and with the final of the Cup so near! If in each match they did their level best, the augury for Saturday's meeting with Bury at the Crystal Palace would appear to be anything but good—would be bad indeed, but for the fact that Bury also lost three matches. Southampton have no hope now of winning the Southern League competition, but they will not mind this if they gain the Cup on Saturday (April 21), when, in fair weather, the Palace at Sydenham should be visited by more people than at any previous final—that is, if Southern football followers are enthusiastic over the chance of the Cup coming South after so long an absence.

The League

is resulting in a close finish between Aston Villa and Sheffield United, each of whom on Saturday had to be content with a draw, the respective clubs which held their own with them being Notts Forest and Stoke. Aston's matches played then numbered thirty-three, and their points 48. With one match less Sheffield United stood at 46. Wolverhampton and Sunderland, with 37 points each, were at the close of Saturday's matches the nearest rivals. Aston Villa's victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers renders the Birmingham club's defeat impossible.

Opening of the Cricket Season.

The winds that blew from the west on Monday were accompanied by tolerably frequent rain-showers, and watching or playing cricket at Kennington Oval in the first of the season's matches of importance was not an unmixed pleasure. There were about 7000 persons present, but play lasted only two hours and ten minutes, during which time Surrey made 131 runs (thanks chiefly to Abel and Hayward) for the loss of three wickets, all taken by A. E. Trott. The London County Club, captained by W. G. Grace, found the gusty weather not at all to their liking. D. L. A. Jephson appeared for the first time as Surrey's captain.

Though the war has been the means of robbing us of the pleasure of welcoming a team of South African cricketers, whose programme of matches had practically been arranged, the season will be a very busy one. A visit will be paid us by a team of cricketers from the West Indies, who will arrive towards the end of May, and make a commencement against the London County C.C. (now first-class) at the Crystal Palace, on a ground that was always beautiful to look at, and promises to be of rare quality in every other respect. A tour is also to be made by the Haverford Collegians, who were with us in 1896; but their matches, which are to take place between the end of June and the early days of August, will be practically against our public schools. Many who were with us last season we shall, alas! see no more. Some of them have found a soldier's grave, others are still at the front, and, let us hope, will be saved from such a fate. Their places have been difficult to fill, and one or more counties will suffer, but with favourable weather the grand old game will be pursued as enthusiastically as ever, and watched as keenly, though perhaps by fewer people. The professionals who are to have benefits are J. T. Hearne, A. Shrewsbury, Pougher, Mold, Brockwell, Martin, Butt, and Mead. I sincerely hope that circumstances will be kind to one and all of them, and that the proceeds will be husbanded in such a manner as shall prove really beneficial. R. Moorhouse, of Yorkshire, is to have a definite sum of £500 in lieu of a benefit match; and Martin has been offered the average of the yield of five years (the present and the four previous seasons) in the second match of the Canterbury week in order that he may not be the victim of foul weather.

The Billiard Championship.

Throughout the present week C. Dawson (champion) and H. W. Stevenson (challenger) have been playing for the right to the title. The match is one of 9000 up. Play began on Monday, when Stevenson obtained a substantial advantage (by means, chiefly, of a fine break of 354), and will conclude on Saturday evening. Argyll Hall, Oxford Circus, is the scene of the match, and the game is played on one of Messrs. Wright and Co.'s tables.

BANSHEE.

Mrs. Flyhigh: "Doesn't Bessie Burley look radiant? She must be thinking of her new gown."

Mr. Flyhigh: "Yes; and do you observe how wretched Burley looks? He is evidently thinking of it too."

* CAUSE AND EFFECT.

On Wednesday Night, the 11th inst., the rowing life-boat and the steam life-boat at Padstow, on the Cornish coast, went out to rescue the Lowestoft fishing-smack *Peace and Plenty*. Both boats were capsized, and eleven men were drowned. The smack is now lying a total wreck on the rocks. The disaster was caused by a heavy breaking wave bursting right over the unfortunate steam life-boat. She turned turtle under the weight of water, and did not right herself. The rowing life-boat was brought back to harbour quite safely, despite the terrific seas that were running. Three of the crew of the smack were drowned.

CORNISH LIFE-BOAT DISASTER OFF PADSTOW.

Landlady: "Do you find it convenient to read at table, Mr. Murkie?"

Boarder: "Yes; it takes my mind off what I'm eating."

BOARDING-HOUSE ETIQUETTE.

THE RACING WORLD.

THE RACING WORLD should have enjoyed its

Easter Holidays

immensely, for surely never was it better catered for in its particular amusement. I suppose I may count Saturday of last week in the entertainment. That furnished by

Alexandra Park

made a record in several ways. There was the Two Thousand Pounder, the London Cup, which for a time has actually

Knocked the Wind out of the City and Suburban.

Leaving out the *big* race of the day, the card was a strong one. There were the improvements in the arrangements to be inspected, and the always welcome prospect to the multitude of a favourite's winning the chief event of the day. The weather was favourable, and augured well for a record in attendance. Surely the record was reached and cut. Never in my time has Alexandra Park had so big a day.

Downham Won the London Cup

there, and on Easter Monday Mr. Musker, who has been so extraordinarily successful in this and last season, carried off

The Queen's Prize at Kempton,

where, if record was not made in the way of gate, that latter could have fallen but very little short of a best. Chevening, ridden by little Johnny Reiff, put this nice stake to

Mr. Musker's Credit,

much to the delight of the populace, who are very fond of the little American boy. I should say it is not often that an owner lands two important races on practically successive days before such enormous crowds.

In former years I have preached about the wonderfully good order among what are called the masses at holiday race-meetings. To pursue my recording vein, I would venture to bet that A.P. and Kempton each made a record for the sensible reputable manner in which the crowd carried themselves.

A monster company assisted at

Uncle Jack's Triumph

in the Great Lancashire Steeplechase. Lord William Beresford's horse I have always known to be a good one, but I fear that his tumble on the day after the Grand National would prevent many from backing him. Lord William has not had very much luck of late, and deserved a turn; let us hope that his may last for a good long while.

After the bustle of the Bank Holiday meetings, whose name was, as I say, legion, it was like stepping from the din of the Strand and Fleet Street to the restful peace of the Temple's old courts when renewing acquaintance with

Newmarket for the Craven Meeting.

There was much gossip as to Derby prospects, but very little betting; some of the good judges had been much struck by the performance of Mr. Keene's colt Disguise, who certainly won in very handsome style at Kempton, but the local men of observation appeared particularly confident in their two fancies, Forfarshire and Democrat.

Strike-a-Light and Goblet

they swore by for the City and Suburban, most of them having deserted Downham for that race, on account of the penalty—10 lb.—he earned in the London Cup. After the Liverpool Meeting I thought that either the first or last-named might win at Epsom, but certainly Downham's chance would have looked better with his original weight. As it is, he is asked to do a tremendous lot for a three-year-old. Yet this year's three-year-olds appear of much better class than the great majority of their elders, and I should not in any way be surprised were

Downham

to prove himself equal to accomplishing a task which would, a few years ago, have been deemed quite impossible. Between now and the day we may be shown reason for deserting early fancies, and also have others' claims put before us impressively. We may, but I scarcely expect to find that happening, and if I take Innocence with Strike-a-Light, Goblet, and Downham, I shall be content to stand them against the rest.

BENDIGO.

A British Mother in Time of War.

THE constant household task and care
Which seem so small, yet are so great,
The homely kingdom which doth wear,
To her, the mien of royal state,
Make up her world until the cry—
"To arms!" foretells the coming strife,
And then she rises, calm and high,
Above the commonplace of life.

No leisure now for little cares
Or little fears, for *he* is gone;
And all her hopes and all her prayers
With him and England's arms go on.
She feels herself identified
With warlike worth—is not her son
With Britain? And with British pride
She hears of battles fought and won.

With godlike egotism bright
In hers, as in all human hearts,
She waits the ending of the fight—
The joy that victory imparts.
He may be wounded 'mid the foe,
May lose—though Heaven forbid—a limb
But then he fights for Britain, so
The God of gods will care for him.

Maybe she reads one golden day
Of some brave deed that he has done.
It was for Britain—through the fray
The God of Battles led him on.
She sees the horrors of the fight—
The gaping gun, the bursting shell—
And shudders, but the God of Right
Fights on with Britain—all is well.

And when maybe with failing eyes
She sees his name amid the slain,
The Spartan mother in her dies—
She is but woman once again.
But though he sleeps beneath the sod
Of foreign shores, 'mid foreign foes,
He fell for Britain, and the God
Of Britain hath him safe, she knows.

KATE BISHOP ("Kay Bee").

THE PENNY LAWYER.

["Lex" will be happy to reply to short and simple questions of law. Queries should be addressed to "The Editor of The Penny Illustrated Paper," 198, Strand, London, and must be accompanied by the proper names and addresses—in confidence. Replies given to name or initials, as desired. Questions must be written on one side of the paper only. No replies can be sent direct by post.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HONESTY.—(1) No. (2) According to your means. (3) No. (4) If you are sole executor, you are liable to pay debts up to the amount of her estate.

BLACKIE.—No.

GETHINS.—It is a technical document, and is best prepared by a solicitor.

LAND TAX.—The landlord should pay this.

COMPOUND.—(1) Apply to Probate Registry, Somerset House, W.C., giving fullest particulars you can. The fee depends upon the length of the will. (2) The creditors should write accepting the payment and undertake not to take any proceedings for remainder.

ANXIOUS.—A solicitor could draw the necessary agreement for you.

ADVICE.—You could not take proceedings with much chance of success. Wait developments.

SUNBEAM.—Inasmuch as their agent has inspected the tyre, it seems unreasonable to ask for a further inspection. You could not, however, well do as you suggest.

SHAMROCK.—If the furniture was bought after January 1883 by your wife, the creditors cannot sell them.

C. F.—By purchase.

A. B. C.—You could see a solicitor, who would call a meeting of your creditors.

OTHER REPLIES in next week's *P.I.P.*

LEX.

Mrs. Kayton (to confidential friend): "Yes, dear, for the first year of our married life Harry came to dinner in a dress suit."

Friend: "And what does he do now?"

Mrs. Kayton: "Now he comes to breakfast in it."

EXTENDED.

ABSOLUTELY PURE, therefore BEST. CADBURY'S COCOA is entirely free from drugs, alkali, or any foreign admixture. It is most Refreshing, Invigorating, and Sustaining, and can be taken with great benefit at all times and seasons. Insist on having Cadbury's, as other Cocoas are sometimes substituted for the sake of extra profit.—[ADVT.]

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Will cost a ha'penny. It will contain all the latest news of the hour, for it has accredited correspondents in every quarter of the globe, and other means of obtaining exceptional and exclusive information.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Will cost a ha'penny. It will be well illustrated, and will contain articles by men who are trending all over the world for the particular purpose of writing their experiences for *Express* readers.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Will cost a ha'penny. It will present an appearance entirely different from that of any other morning paper. Will the innovation be popular? Buy a copy, and see what you think of it.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Will cost a ha'penny. It will be absolutely the best sporting paper printed in the country. Its racing information will be far superior to that given by any of its contemporaries.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Will cost a ha'penny. It will be the ladies' favourite paper, containing personal gossip, home notes, fashion chat, cooking recipes, and hints on household management.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Will cost a ha'penny. It will give you all the news of the Theatres, Concerts, and Music Halls. It will tell you what books to read and what not to read.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

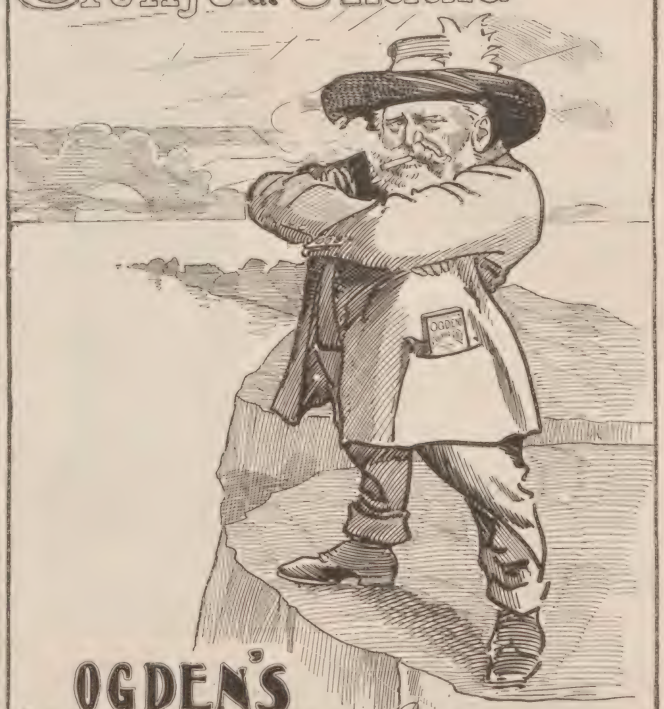
Will cost a ha'penny. It will have a circulation of one million. Don't forget to give your order, as *The Daily Express* cannot print more than a million, and the demand will exceed the supply.

PEARSON'S NEW ½D. MORNING PAPER

The Daily Express

TUESDAY NEXT

Cronje at St. Helena



OGDEN'S GUINEA-GOLD ARE HIS ONLY SOLACE

Beware of Imitations

Borax Starch Glaze.

The primness and smartness of children's starched toilet is ensured by adding Borax Starch Glaze.

There can be no valid reason why Borax Starch Glaze is not mixed with the starch, for it creates no difficulty. It costs no more trouble than to remember. No preparation required; and the fact that the starch is some particular make does not signify, for it improves starch of all makes—palpably accentuates the stiffening and glossing qualities.

Sold by grocers, oilmen, and stores, in penny and larger packets.

By Special Appointment Makers to Her Majesty.

Write for booklet—"The Vanity of Men."

The Patent Borax Co., Ld., Ladywood, Birmingham.

No. 172.

THE WORLD OF WOMEN.

THE QUEEN AND THE EMERALD ISLE.

I HAVE been reading the very interesting accounts of the Queen's visit to Dublin; of the parade of children from all parts of the island before her, and the enthusiasm displayed by Her Majesty's little subjects in the Phœnix Park. These small boys and girls will never forget how the gentle

Grey-Haired Royal Lady

smiled at them, and when the little lads grow up many of them will be eager to enroll themselves as soldiers of the great Empire over which she ruled so wisely and so well. Perhaps many of them will be

Irish Guardsmen.

I hope so, and I have no doubt they will. In the *Lady's Pictorial* for April 7 there is an interesting description of a velvet dress the material of which was specially

Manufactured for the Queen.

The front of the dress is ornamented with an artistic design of shamrocks as if tied together with flowing bows and ends of ribbon. The dress is black, and the shamrock design is also black, but the process by which the design is stamped upon the material gives it a brilliant shimmer, like that of a raven's wing. Velvet treated in this way is called *velours mevonac*, and the process was invented by a woman—Miss Cameron, of 31, George Street, Edinburgh.

When Miss Cameron Went to Windsor

to exhibit her beautiful invention to Her Majesty, Their Royal Highnesses Princess Henry of Battenberg and her niece, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and Lady Roberts, the wife of the Commander-in-Chief in South Africa, ordered dresses of the same material.

The Fashions of Irish Ladies

are not infrequently as piquant as they themselves have the reputation of being. Take, for an example of their tastefulness in costume, the three Graces I am courteously permitted to copy from the *Lady's Pictorial*. They are portrayed in the exquisitely made costumes they wore on the arrival of Her Majesty in Dublin, when they were an attractive trio in the Mayoral group. That sparkling Irish lady, Mrs. Maurice Power O'Donaghue, wrote in a charming letter to the *Lady's Pictorial* that the

Lady Mayoress of Dublin

sure to be Lady Pile ere long), who presented an exquisite bouquet to Her Majesty, wore a stylish gown of khaki cloth, very fine in texture, and deeply tucked around the trained skirt. The front was tunic-shaped, and was finished with fringe, the seams being outlined with rich appliqué lace, which latter was also carried up the sides of the slightly frilled bodice, and down the back as well. The front of the sleeves and the daintily turned cuffs were enriched with same pretty ornamentation. Around the shoulders, thrown up in relief by a foundation of azure-blue velvet, was a beautiful deep collar of rich twine-colour appliqué, with a little glitter of silver introduced; and a graceful jabot of fringed chiffon completed one of the prettiest toilettes turned out by the Misses Wilson this year. The hat to match was of blue lisse, with a beautifully embroidered crown and a side garniture of roses, a sweeping Paradise plume being employed for finish.

It will be observed that the dresses of Lady Henderson and Mrs. Downes were similarly elegant.

With Mrs. Patrick Campbell

everyone must sympathise most sincerely. The death of her husband, one of the Imperial Yeomanry, led so brilliantly by Lord Chesham at Boshof (where Colonel de Villebois-Mareuil was killed), was a painful shock to the talented actress. She was naturally so deeply affected that she closed the little Royalty Theatre during Passion Week; arranging to reappear at Easter in the extremely powerful part in which she is here photographed—that of Magda, which has almost restored prosperity to the bijou house in Dean Street, Soho. It seemed only the other day I read of the Prince of Wales bidding Mr. Patrick Campbell and other gallant Yeomen farewell at Albany Barracks; and now this brave Volunteer has met his death in the terrible War in South Africa.

There is a prospect of another Bank Holiday, to be called

Empire Day;

but it has to be sanctioned by Parliament, and if it is, it will be fixed for Coronation Day, June 28, or Accession Day, June 20. I suppose people will warmly welcome

A Midsummer Holiday;

but I am by no means sure that Bank Holidays are unmixed blessings. They would be if there were more real recreation provided for the people.

Now a word or two more as to fashions. The attempt that has been made to introduce

Skirts Pleated Down to the Knees,

and with the fullness spreading out below, has not been successful. In the first place, the

Photo. Stereoscopic Co.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL AS MAGDA, AT THE ROYALTY THEATRE.

We heartily sympathise with this talented actress on the loss of her husband, who was killed at Boshof while fighting as Sergeant in the Imperial Yeomanry.

Lady Henderson. Lady Mayoress of Dublin (Mrs. Pile). Mrs. Downes.

TRIO OF GRACEFUL SPRING COSTUMES WORN BY LADIES OF THE MAYORAL CIRCLE ON THE OCCASION OF THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO DUBLIN.

ALWAYS TO THE FRONT.

Wherever the English language is spoken there you will find

CAMPBELL'S MELODEONS.

They are used by all classes of Society, and are the favourite everywhere.

CAMPBELL'S

MELODEONS

To-day have the Largest Sale of any Musical Instrument in the World. NO HOME SHOULD BE WITHOUT ONE. CAMPBELL'S World-famed MELODEONS have Organ and Celestial Tone and Charming Bell Accompaniments. The Solemn Psalm, the Soul-stirring Hymn, the Cheerful Song, and the Merry Dance can all be played on these charming Instruments.

NO KNOWLEDGE OF MUSIC IS REQUIRED BY THE PLAYER.

CUT OUT THIS. AN UNPARALLELED OFFER TO READERS OF "THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED PAPER." CAMPBELL'S PRIZE MEDAL "GEM" MELODEON, 6s. 9d., WORTH DOUBLE. 6s. 9d. With Two Sets of Broad Reeds, Organ and Celestial Tone, sent carefully packed and carriage paid to any address in Great Britain and Ireland on receipt of P.O.O. for 6s. 9d. Selling in Thousands. CUT OUT THIS.

THE BEST BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR LADY OR GENTLEMAN.

CUT OUT THIS. AN UNPARALLELED OFFER TO READERS OF "THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED PAPER." CAMPBELL'S PRIZE MEDAL "MINIATURE" MELODEON, 10s. 9d., SELLING IN THOUSANDS 10s. 9d. With Two Sets of Broad Reeds, Organ and Celestial Tone, and the Charming Bell Accompaniments, sent carefully packed and carriage paid to any address in Great Britain and Ireland on receipt of P.O.O. for 10s. 9d. Worth Double. Marvellous Value. CUT OUT THIS.

NO DECEPTION HERE. 200,000 TESTIMONIALS.

PROFESSOR BROWN, THE CHAMPION MELODEON PLAYER of Great Britain, Ireland and Wales: "Campbell's Patent Melodeons are the finest instruments that have ever come under my touch, and only require a trial to advertise themselves."

N.B.—All lovers of music should at once send for Campbell's New Illustrated Privilege Price List of all kinds of Musical Instruments for Season 1900. Just out.—150,000 of these have been sent out yearly. Send 1d. Stamp to

CAMPBELL & CO. (*Established 50 Years*).

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKERS,

116, TRONGATE, GLASGOW.

N.B.—Campbell's Melodeons are the only genuine *Melodeons in the Market. Beware of* Worthless *Imitations.*

SEEGER'S

Many people use Hair Restorers who will not use a Hair Dye. They toil for weeks and months with a Restorer or Hair Wash. Most of these Restorers—like many Hair Dyes—contain Acetate of Lead and other irritants, causing injury to the scalp, and ruin the Hair. SEEGER'S HAIR DYE contains no such injurious chemicals and will INSTANTLY change Grey (or any colour) Hair to a beautiful Blonde, Brown, or Black, by simply combing it into the Hair. It is guaranteed by eminent Doctors to be perfectly harmless, and has, during its 20 years of popularity, attained an Annual Sale exceeding 270,000 Bottles. Price 2/- per Bottle, of all Druggists, &c., or post free in plain sealed case by sending 2/2 (stating shade required) to the Sole Proprietors—HINDES Ltd., Tabernacle St., LONDON.

HAIR DYE

make is not becoming, and, in the next, it can be carried out only in very thin material; also, it is difficult to walk in with comfort, and impossible to hold up.

There is really nothing to chronicle in the way of new fashions.

In Coat and Skirts

the former is made short—in some cases coming to the waist only at back and sides. This style looks well on slight figures.

Spring and John Noble

go together; so, albeit I recently sketched one of John Noble's wonderfully cheap half-guinea ready-made blue serge costumes, I make no apology now in returning to the admirable goods of this firm. Apply to John Noble, Limited, Brook Street Mills, Manchester, for the new box of patterns of inexpensive fabrics for spring and early summer, and I am sure you will find something to suit your taste and your pocket. The cotton dress fabrics also merit particular notice, a large variety being in lovely designs and colourings, and including piqués, drills, ducks, muslins, lace cloths, diagonals, canvas effects, fancy suitings, costume twills, hair-lined stripes, checks, zephyrs, etc.

I see no signs of the lowered trimmings which I was told to look out for on

Hats and Toques.

Indeed, it seems to me that the ornamentations on both are higher than I have ever seen them, and more top-heavy. This is a pity, for of all parts of a woman's person, the head should not be marked out by lack of simplicity. But it is of no use to protest. Women will wear any monstrosity that is presented to them in the name of fashion, and for one or two to rai e their voices against the tyrant who dominates them is vain. Of course,

The Really Well-Dressed Woman

never goes to extremes, but as well-dressed women are in the minority, no widespread alteration takes place; the monstrosity remains, and we have only to look into the well-patronised bonnet-shops of the West End thoroughfares to see it in all its glory!

One of My Readers Has Been Trying Cycling for a Year,

and she says she is stouter than ever. She explains, however, that she does not think she has actually put on flesh, but that she has developed muscle. Her waist and her hips are larger, and so are her hands, arms, and legs. As there have been these special developments, and as the fat has not decreased, she looks bigger than ever. If this stoutness comes from too much acidity in the system, she should consult Dr. Yorke-Davies (whose "Foods for the Fat" is published by Chatto and Windus, 111, St. Martin's-lane), and diet herself according to his directions. No preparation for external use makes a permanent cure, although it may take down the fat for a time. The evil must be attacked from within, and the remedies must go to the root.

MARGUERITE.

A Journalist's Love-Story.

By HARRY STONE.

[COPYRIGHT.]

MR. JOSEPH GRUNDY was perfectly cosy and comfortable, and was not at all inclined to stir out of his warm room into the damp, foggy afternoon. He laid down his pen and rose from his arm-chair with a half-sigh, shuddering as he peered out of the office window into the quadrangle of Somerset House. Then followed the elaborate routine which marked the close of each day's official "attendance," and had helped to earn for him among the junior members of the staff the irreverent title of a "faddy old buffer." At last, with a sigh of regret at leaving his cosy fireside, he took his departure.

The black bag he carried so carefully, and regarded with so loving an eye, contained a large sum of money, which he was going to deposit in the bank. The Strand was a muddy, yellow river of fog, and Grundy stood at the gates of Somerset House nervously waiting to catch the eye of a passing cabby. He would have been more nervous still had he overheard two men who stood only a few yards away from him.

"There he is! There he is! The little man with the black bag," whispered one, clutching his companion's arm excitedly as he spoke.

"You must get the bag at all risks."

"Leave that to me," replied the other. "I'll have it, never you fear."

A passing driver held up his whip to Grundy, and receiving a nod in reply, drew up his hansom to the edge of the pavement. Quick as thought one of the two men stepped up to the cab. If he had intended making a snatch for the black bag he was too late; for Grundy was already in the hansom carefully placing the bag in a corner of the seat before giving the cabby directions. Without a moment's hesitation the stranger sprang into the cab, giving Grundy a fierce shove which flung him head foremost on to the cushions.

"—— Street, and hurry up," cried the thief in a quick peremptory tone. Before Grundy could cry out, the cab was in the midst of the rattle and roar of the street, and he felt a rough heavy hand at his throat.

"Make the least row, Mister, and I'll throttle the life out of you!" cried his unwelcome companion. The cab was blocked for a few minutes at the corner of Wellington Street, but Grundy was too terrified to make the slightest outcry, and lay huddled in a corner, a little heap of trembling humanity.

It did not take many minutes to reach —— Street. About half-way down, Grundy's abductor held up his stick as a sign to the driver, and the cab stopped. He placed a half-crown on the roof of the cab, and assisted Grundy to alight as though he were a cripple. The man pretended to have forgotten his change, and the cabby whipped up his horse and was instantly lost to sight in the fog.

A heavy hand on Grundy's shoulder forced him along a dark passage. Suddenly the ruffian stopped before a heavy door, and gave a peculiar rap-rap with his stick. Instantly the door was flung open by a coarse, heavy-set man, on whom jail-bird was plainly written. He greeted the man at the door with a certain re-pect dominated by fear, and stood aside for him to enter. Without a word the newcomer strode into the low-ceilinged room, lugging his unwilling companion along with him.

As soon as Grundy's wits returned to him sufficiently he noticed that the place contained about a dozen villainous-looking men. His captor flung him forward into the full light in front of the enormous hearth, round which were men engaged in various cooking and domestic operations, and forced him to give up the black bag.

The inmates of the kitchen left whatever they were doing and crowded round the newcomer and his prey. He was evidently a man of some importance and authority among them, for there was an appearance of respect in their faces as they stood round regarding Grundy with looks of interested curiosity. One weazened, round-shouldered youth, an Ishmaelite of the streets, ventured to ask, with grinning teeth, "Where 'ave yer picked 'im up, Capting?" Grundy stood, cowed and trembling, in the midst of the band of ruffians, and so great was his terror at the close proximity of their evil faces that he felt a sense of thankfulness for the presence of the "Captain," which at least saved him from bodily violence.

The Captain raised the little handbag on high. "Boys," he cried, "this is a good haul, and we'll have a beano to-night, you bet. But I shall have to run out and cash these 'flimsies' at once. Keep this little bounder here, and amuse him until I come back."

Grundy's legs fairly gave way under him at the thought of being left to their tender mercies, and he sank helplessly into a chair. Just as the Captain reached the door a stern voice from the end of the kitchen cried "Stop!" In the dead pause which followed, a tall powerfully built man stepped forward into the lamplight. "Bring back that bag." He enforced his command by a pointed revolver. "This gentleman is a friend of mine, and if anyone touches a hair of his head he shall pay dearly for it. You know me and I know you. So beware!"

It was quite a dramatic scene. Curiously enough, nobody offered to raise a finger to help their chief, but Grundy was too surprised to notice this. He stared in amazement at his sudden saviour. "Mr. Ingamells," he gasped. But the man with the revolver did not take his eyes off the Captain for a second.

"Come?" he said impatiently. "Give the gentlemin his bag at once."

With an oath he flung the bag at Grundy's feet.

"And now open the door."

This was done with a bad grace, and then, turning to Mr. Grundy, his rescuer said, with a slight theatrical affectation, "Sir, you are free!"

Grundy commenced to mumble some words of thanks; but Ingamells sternly pointed to the door, and Grundy hastened out into the street.

The Captain broke out into a hearty laugh. "Splendid! splendid, Sir! It's as good as a play. I knew you would be here before me, but hadn't the remotest idea what we should do with your friend when I got him here, Mr. Ingamells."

He went on to explain how their original plot simply to steal the bag had failed, and how the sudden idea of kidnapping the owner of the bag had worked out.

"Captain," said Ingamells warmly, "you have done me a good turn, and I won't forget it."

Then turning to the crowd present generally, he shouted, "I am leaving a small present with the Captain to pay my footing, and I hope you will have a jolly evening."

On reaching home Howard Ingamells found a dainty little note in a very familiar handwriting waiting for him, and asking him to call round. It added in the inevitable postscript, "Father is delighted with you, and will receive you with open arms."

Ingamells did not feel altogether satisfied with himself, but found comfort in the reflection that "all's fair in love and war." He resolved that

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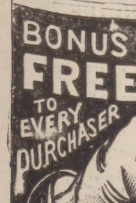

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when a fitting occasion arose he would make a clean breast of it, and confess the trick he had played upon the old man. "At any rate," he mused, "it will teach him several useful lessons, and when he finds how Clara and I love each other he will not have the heart to withhold his forgiveness."

He was still in the midst of his meditations when he reached the familiar gate, consecrated to him by the memories of many fond lingering good-nights. A rush and sweep of delicate draperies, a patter of dainty shoes on the gravel path, welcomed him.

"Oh, Howard, I'm so glad you are come. I am afraid to look father in the face. I feel just as I did once when I played truant from school, and I begin to wish we had waited until father relented, and not deceived him in this way."

"Yes, my darling. I wish we had done so too. But it can't be helped now, and we must put as good a face as we can on it. You see, it turned out so much more seriously than I had expected. I had planned a simple robbery, and subsequent restoration of the stolen property, by my help as a journalist and one who was familiar with the low life of London. When my friend the Captain, who, by the way, although one of the most expert thieves in Christendom, is a fine fellow in many respects—I say, when he came into the thieves' kitchen dragging your father along with him I was dumbfounded. I was deep in conversation with a fellow who had just done five years, and was getting some fine 'copy' out of him. The Captain gave me a knowing look, and I kept back in the corner awaiting developments. If I had not had entire confidence in his coolness and resource I should probably have ruined the whole plot by an untimely interference. It was certainly realistic, and I am afraid your father must have been much upset."

"Oh, he soon recovered when he found his money was safe," said Clara. "He has told me how you rushed forward and rescued him just in the nick of time."

"Yes, it was all done on the impulse of the moment, but the Captain tumbled to it like a born actor, and played his part splendidly."

"But there is one thing he could not understand: he wondered what you were doing among a gang of thieves and cut-throats."

"You reminded him that I was a journalist, I suppose?"

"Oh, I murmured something about hunting for 'copy.'"

"Yes, Clara: these haunts of more or less picturesque vice and criminality are a veritable gold-mine to me, and will furnish any amount of material."

"But come in, Howard, father is very anxious to see you."

Mr. Grundy shook hands with him warmly.

"My dear Sir, I am very grateful to you for your timely help this afternoon. How shall I ever repay you?"

Howard could not help his eyes wandering over to where Clara stood playing nervously with the door-handle. Mr. Grundy understood what the glance meant, and a quiet smile lit up his face as Clara vanished with a charming blush. He was beginning to see things in a new light.

"Mr. Ingamells," said he, "my daughter has confessed to me that there is a love affair between you. Of course, you know she is all I have in the world, and that all I live for now is to make her future happy and secure. I must confess that your occupation prejudices me somewhat against you, for I have always classed writers with actors and the like as a thriftless and improvident lot. But my views have changed considerably, and if you sincerely love each other I shall throw no obstacle in your way."

"Thank you, Sir," replied Ingamells, and then as a sudden wave of remorse swept over him, in a lame and shamefaced fashion he confessed the trick he had played. Mr. Grundy was struck dumb with anger and amazement, and strode about the room in an attempt to regain his self-control. The young man stood silently by, watching the burst of anger gradually dying away. At length Mr. Grundy raised his head, and holding out his hand, he said—

"Well, my boy, I forgive you. I may as well submit to the inevitable with a good grace."

THE END.

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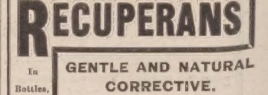

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